THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Not yet.

(b) and (c) This is under consideration as part of the new policy.

Issue of free passes and P.T.Os. to railway employees

*46. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of free passes and PTOs etc. issued to gazetted as well as non-gazetted railway employees;

(b) whether it is a fact that the gazetted officers are given more passes than the non-gazetted employees, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the rules governing the issue of free passes etc. to railway employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Both Gazetted and Non-gazetted Railway employees are given six seats of P.T.Os per year. However, whereas the Gazetted Staff are given six sets of free passes per year, the Non-Gazetted Staff get only one set of free passes per year up to 5 years of service and three sets per year after 5 years of service.

(b) Yes, Sir. In view of the nature of duties and responsibilities, there has always been a difference between the pay scales and other fringe benefits granted to Gazetted Officers and Non-Gazetted employees. In addition, the greater transfer liability of officers has to be taken into account while considering the issue of passes.

(c) The rules are contained in the Indian Railway Conference Association Rules, Part-II.

Malformation of babies in Bhopal after the gas tragedy

*52. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases of malformation were found in the babies born after the gas tragedy in Bhopal;

(b) if so, how many such cases have been reported; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to help such babies and to assist the traumatised mothers for ensuring the survival of their new born babies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) The studies conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research in 10 areas of Bhopal City indicate that out of 2430 pregnant women who were exposed to the gas leakage at Bhopal on 3rd December, 1984 and kept under observation, 366 aborted, 82 have delivered deal child and 1982 have delivered live birth. Congenital abnormality was seen in 30 infants of which 26 had major congenial formations.

All the babies born to mothers who were exposed to gas on 3rd December, 1984 are being followed for physical growth, psychological development, morbidity, mortality etc. for a period of two years.

Encephalitis

*53. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a killer disease "ENCEPHALITIS" has been spreading in the eastern parts of Uttar

Pradesh and a large number of persons died as a result thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that sporadic case of the disease have been reported in Delhi and neighbouring areas;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) whether a central team of doctors was deputed to Uttar Pradesh and the other affected parts to find out ways and means to prevent the disease; and

(e) if so, with what results and what preventive measures Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) According to the available information there has been an increase in the incidence of encephalitis cases in certain parts of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In Uttar Pradesh, there has been 1037 cases with 322 deaths up to 4th November, 1985. In West Bengal there has been about 220 cases with about 60 deaths up to the beginning of November, 1985.

(d) A team from the National Institute of Communicable Diseases was deputed to Uttar Pradesh to render the necessary advice and assistance to the government of Uttar Pradesh. Similarly, a team from All India Institute of Hygiene and public Health, Calacutta was deputed to render the necessary assistance to the Government of West Bengal.

(e) Both the State Governments have taken the necessary containment measures including insecticide spraying, health education, publicity and treatment of patients. It appears that the incidence pattern is currently on the decline.

Discovery of match stick type medicine for prevention of pregnancy

*54. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the discovery of a match stick type medicine which is being put under the skin of arm which could prevent pregnancy for four years;

(b) whether the medicine has been found successful; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to popularise it in the country on a mass scale?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c) A new Contraceptive device called Norplant which is inserted subdermally in the arm is currently undergoing trials by the Indian Council of Medical Research. The results obtained so far show that this is an effective Contraceptive. Further trials in the programmatic conditions would be needed before introduction of this Contraceptive in the National Family Welfare Programme.

Opening of Model Schools in Districts

*55. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI:

SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open model schools in every district;

(b) if so, when these shcools are likely to be opened; and

(c) what is the number of such schools to be opened during the year 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The schools will be opened in a phased manner during the VII plan period. The phasing will be finalised shortly.